

"poetry," and usually comic; but must rhyme.

Nannie S.—Now is a good time to plant the German iris; it is perfectly hardy, and will grow anywhere, though a moist situation suits it best. If the varieties are planted, bloom may be had from March to July.

H. H.—The pain in the region of the heart is probably caused by indigestion. Much good may be done by practicing a few physical culture exercises. Food and exercise to prevent are better than drugs to cure.

Housewife—Fringe on table linen should not be combed; use a moderately stiff brush for the purpose. (2) Monograms should be ironed right side down on a Turkish towel, and the letters will show up beautifully.

Several Querists—It is impossible to answer queries "by return mail," as in many instances the information can not be had at once, but must be looked up, or sought from others, who may, themselves, be busy. Information will be given as soon as possible.

E. C. C.—A paste made of lemon juice and magnesia and applied to the face, neck and hands on lying down at night, will bleach the skin beautifully. For stained or discolored nails, a teaspoonful of lemon juice in a cupful of warm water is good treatment. This will also loosen the cuticle from the nail.

Mother—Individual combs and brushes, as well as individual tooth brushes, towels and handkerchiefs, are a necessity. So many diseases are transmitted through a promiscuous use of such things that it is well, for health's, if not for decency's sake, to give each one his or her own. (2) Use rice powder for the face; talcum powder is too heavy.

Mrs. L.—Where the head should not be wet, a simple and effective dry shampoo is to sprinkle corn meal, sifted to as fine a powder as you can get, into the hair and rubbed well on the scalp. Brush it out with a clean, soft brush. This will not cleanse as well as the egg shampoo, or castile soap and water.

Harry S.—Put into a cheese cloth bag a few cents worth of lycopodium powder and before dressing wash the arm-pits with cool water containing a few drops of ammonia to deodorize; then apply the powder by dusting profusely; this absorbs the perspiration and prevents the

odor. Frequent and liberal use of water, internal and external, and frequent changes of underwear, with care of the health, are the best sweetener.

H. P.—A farina kettle, or what is known as a double boiler, is a set of two vessels, one fitting inside the other. The lower vessel contains boiling water, and into this the smaller vessel is set. Many custards, creams, cereals, and other things which would scorch if put next to the fire, are easily cooked in this vessel. This is the process meant by a "water bath," when melting ingredients that would be ruined if coming in contact with a fire-heated surface.

Some Good Recipes

A good way to cook sweet potatoes is to use for a roast one-half pork and one-half beef, slowly boiling the meat until about half done, then place in the baking pan with the meat liquor and roast, basting freely with the gravy. When the meat is almost done, take out part of the gravy, and put into the pan pieces of thickly-sliced potatoes, returning to the oven. When the meat is done, take it up, and sprinkle a little brown sugar on the potatoes and brown them in the oven.

A good cookie recipe is as follows: Cream a half-cupful of butter and a cupful of sugar; add two eggs, half a cupful of milk, any flavoring extract wanted, and enough flour to make a soft dough. If too much flour is used, they will be stiff and dry. Dust the board with as little flour as possible, take a small piece of the dough at a time, roll and cut out, baking a panful at a time until all the dough has been used; then gather up the scraps left from each cutting, work lightly together, roll and cut out, and bake. The oven should be quite hot, and the cookies should bake in a few minutes. The dough should be rolled quite thin, and lifted into the pan, if inclined to break, with a pancake turner. A pan should be ready to receive them when done; or a large sieve will be better, as they will dry out faster and be more crisp.

Owing to the scarcity of fruits, the despised prunes are having an inning. The best is the cheapest, and the best are very good. They may be either cooked, or merely soaked in water over night. If cooked, wash, soak and stew one pound of prunes until soft, but not "mashed." Remove the pits without unnecessarily breaking the prune, and lay carefully in a basin. Add sugar as desired to the water in which the prunes were cooked and boil down to a syrup; make a plain jelly of gelatine, flavor with lemon, add the syrup and pour over the prunes. When stiffened, serve with whipped cream or a nice sauce.

A Good Baking Powder

One pound of cream tartar, which sells in city stores for forty cents per pound; half pound each of cooking soda and corn starch, either of which sells for five cents per pound. Sift these thoroughly, several times, stirring and mixing. This will give you two pounds of baking powder without any alum adulterant, at a cost of forty-five cents. The best baking powder on the market, which is no better than that made by this recipe, will cost you fifty to sixty cents per pound.

Cake-Baking in Cold Weather

Melting the butter invariably makes a poor cake. If the crock in which the cake is to be made is heated with warm water, and the

sugar heated, the necessary warmth to soften the butter will be given. Flour and baking powder must be sifted together three or four times at least, then, to the creamed butter and sugar add the flour, a little at a time, some of the beaten whites of the eggs, and when all is blended, do not continue the beating, or the cake will not be light. Smooth dough is necessary in layer cakes. Experience only will make a good cake baker, as different kinds of cake require different directions for blending materials, and materials differ also. Baking of any kind must be done with brains, or a failure will be inevitable.

For a "Blind" Window

Sometimes, in a room, there is need of light which can only be supplied by setting a window in the wall of the building overlooking a neighbor's premises, or before which there will be an undesirable view.

For such a situation, the window panes should be treated so they will be opaque, thus respecting the neighbor's desire for privacy, or shutting off the objectionable outlook, while still getting the light.

There are several ways of doing this, one of which is to tie a lump of soft glazier's putty in a piece of cheese-cloth, and dab it on the glass until it is covered evenly, and dry where the dust can not settle on it, after which it will last a long time. Another way is to paint it with white, or other delicate colored paint. Another method is to brush the beaten white of an egg over tissue paper and gently rub it out smoothly on the glass. The putty can be removed by soaking the dabbled surface of the glass with linseed oil until soft, then rubbing the putty off with a soft cloth and wash with a strong solution of soda. The paint can be removed with turpentine, soaking as the putty, but the egg-cement is difficult to remove.

Paris Fashions for Readers of The Commoner



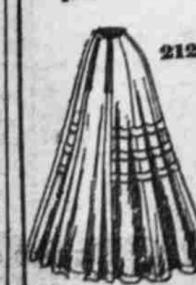
2121—Ladies' Tucked Shirtwaist. French flannel, albatross or voile are all suitable materials for this model. Six sizes, 32 to 42.



1523—Girls' Platted Russian Dress, closed at Center of Back and with Detached Sailor Collar. A good pattern for a school and every-day frock. Four sizes, 6 to 12 years.



2107—Ladies' Corset Cover, Slipped on over the Head, and with or without the Ruffles. Nainsook, Persian lawn or cambric are all appropriate for this model. Three sizes, small, medium and large.



2123—Ladies' Eleven-Gored Ripple Skirt, with Plaits at Front and Back. Suitable for all the winter materials from serge to velveteen. Seven sizes, 22 to 34.



2111—Ladies' Tucked Night Gown with Back Yoke, and Long or Three-Quarter Length Sleeves. This pattern is particularly appropriate for a flannelette gown. Four sizes, 32, 36, 40 and 44.



1394—Misses' Double Breasted Eton Jacket, with Long or Elbow Sleeves. A smart model for school and every day wear. Three sizes, 13 to 17 years.



1506—Girls' Apron, with Gabrielle Front and with or without the Bretelles. Developed in Persian lawn or cross barred muslin, this will be found a most satisfactory pattern. Five sizes, 4 to 12 years.



2114—Misses' Seven-Eighths Length Coat, with Kimono Armholes. Broadcloth, invisible plaid, worsted, or tweed are all suitable materials for this jaunty coat. Three sizes, 13 to 17 years.

WHAT WAS IT The Woman Feared?

What a comfort to find it is not "the awful thing" feared, but only chronic indigestion, which proper food can relieve.

A woman in Ohio says: "I was troubled for years with indigestion and chronic constipation. At times I would have such a gnawing in my stomach that I actually feared I had a—I dislike to write or even think of what I feared.

"Seeing an account of Grape-Nuts, I decided to try it. After a short time I was satisfied the trouble was not the awful thing I feared but was still bad enough. However I was relieved of a bad case of dyspepsia, by changing from improper food to Grape-Nuts.

"Since that time my bowels have been as regular as a clock. I had also noticed before I began to eat Grape-Nuts that I was becoming forgetful of where I put little things about the house, which was very annoying.

"But since the digestive organs have become strong from eating Grape-Nuts, my memory is good and my mind as clear as when I was young, and I am thankful." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little booklet, "The Road to Wellville," in packages. "There's a Reason."

THE COMMONER will supply its readers with perfect fitting, seam allowing patterns from the latest Paris and New York styles. The designs are practical and adapted to the home dressmaker. Full directions how to cut and how to make the garments with each pattern. The price of these patterns 10 cents each, postage prepaid. Our large catalogue containing the illustrations and descriptions of 1,000 seasonable styles for ladies, misses and children, as well as lessons in home dress-making full of helpful and practical suggestions in the making of your wardrobe mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents. In ordering patterns give us your name, address, pattern number and size desired. Address THE COMMONER, Pattern Dept., Lincoln, Neb.